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The tablet which contains these names does not stand alone, but I will take time to cite but one other. *HLC* 52 (Part I, pl. 12) contains (obv. 1. 9) the name  $Tab^{-d}Dun$ -gi- $^dNannar$  (The god Dungi is the twin² of the god Nannar). This tablet is dated in the year Urbillum was destroyed, which was, according to Thureau-Dangin, Dungi's 43d year, but according to Myhrman, his 55th. The tablet was in any case written while Dungi was still living, and the name cited is alone sufficient to overthrow Professor Mercer's whole thesis.

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## Takku

In publishing a preliminary translation of a new account of the creation of man (in this Journal, 37. 36—40), the writer warned readers (p. 26) not to regard the rendering as final. The tablet is carelessly written and in parts has suffered from breaking. In working over the text again I have reached the conclusion that the divine name read Tikhu should be read Takhu, and that it is identical with the name that Langdon read

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The writer called attention to these and many other names which throw light on Sumerian religious conceptions in this JOURNAL, 34. 315-320.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See the writer's Origin and Development of Babylonian Writing, No. 144<sup>15</sup>.

Tagtug in his so-called Epic of Paradise. The new text accordingly affords another welcome source of information concerning an enigmatical character that has been the cause of earnest discussion.

The volume in which the cuneiform text is to be published will, I hope, be in the hands of scholars before the end of the year. The readings of one or two other passages will be improved. The new readings will, however, only bring out more clearly the character of the document as already set forth in the JOURNAL.

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The Words 'law' and 'witness' in the South Arabic

There follows a date formula in the usual terms of an eponym. Then comes the word משטם followed by two personal names, 'WS-Ili du-GND and Y'WS-Ili du-RPZN. I assume that משטם means 'witness' (sâmi'), as in the Ethiopic, and that the word introduces the attestation of two witnesses (in the singular, as in the Elephantine papyri). This explanation is borne out by what follows, in which now for the first time we can get a consecutive reading for a good line of the inscription: וולו ועתהר וסתוקה סמע' הן פתחן הנגר ורפון בצחפה וולו ועתהר וסתוקה סמע' הן פתחן הנגר ורפון בצחפה אסמעסמן (bisuhufi asmâ'isumân, suhuf being the plural of the good Arabic sahîfat). This last phrase occurs also in Halévy, 199 (Hommel,